

"PRISONER OF THE MAHDI" RETURNS

Dr. Carl Neufeld Has Exciting Adventures on Visit to Medina.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Dec. 27.—Bronzed like a native son of the desert and in dress, speech and manner an Arab the only white man who ever openly visited Medina, the Holy City of the Mohammedans, recently returned here. The pilgrim was Dr. Carl Neufeld, the famous "prisoner of the Mahdi," who was liberated by Lord Kitchener in the Sudan many years ago.

Few men have had a more romantic and exciting career than this celebrated traveler. As a physician, teacher, merchant and contractor he went to the Sudan in 1886. When the uprising of the natives began he was taken prisoner by the Mahdi and kept in chains for 12 years. Freed by Kitchener, he returned to Germany, but after a lecturing tour he made his way back to the Sudan. Shortly after the outbreak of the present war he had to leave his adopted country again, as he was expelled by the British authorities.

After his return to Germany he was sent to Constantinople where he placed himself at the disposal of the Turkish government. He was used as an emissary to the Arabian tribes and for this work probably no man is better qualified. As he speaks the dialects of all the Bedouin tribes, knows their customs and has embraced the Mohammedan faith, he wins confidence wherever he appears in the world of Islam.

After organizing the Arabian tribes on the peninsula of Sinai for an invasion of Egypt this strange man went to Damascus and decided to visit Medina. He knew very well that he would not leave this city alive if the natives and the thousands of pilgrims who are constantly there should doubt his Mohammedanism.

Turks Distrustful. Accompanied by four Arabs he left Damascus in June. After his train passed Maan and El Ulla the Turkish officers with whom he traveled became distrustful and they even kept aloof from him when they saw him say his prayers like every pious Mohammedan. When he reached the Medina, the Ramadan, the Mohammedan festival, had just begun. He placed himself under the protection of a prominent Arab, who has charge of the pilgrims from the Sudan and his host conducted him to the Haram-es-Sherifa, the temple where Mohammed is buried with his favorite daughter Fatma and his son-in-law.

When he stood before the crypt of the prophet the German traveler was surrounded by an angry mob. His position became quite critical until two Arabians made their way through the crowd and declared: "We know him; he is the Effendi of Omdurman and Assuan, a good man and true Mohammedan."

Even this did not entirely satisfy the mob and Dr. Neufeld was only permitted to stay in the temple after he had affirmed his faith with a solemn oath. For two or three weeks he was continually watched by natives who were not convinced by his religious professions and by Egyptian spies in the service of England.

The latter tried in every way to inflame the natives against him by calling him an infidel and a Christian dog. At a meeting of the tribes and sheiks he was asked where he came from and there was great excitement when he calmly said: "From Germany."

The priests and chiefs were satisfied, however, when he related how he was converted to Mohammedanism by a pious sheik in the Sudan.

Remains Nearly Two Months. Dr. Neufeld remains in Medina nearly two months in continual intercourse with the sheiks, ulamas and prominent pilgrims from Tripoli, Tunis, Morocco, Persia, Afghanistan and India. He obtained much valuable information. From the pilgrims he learned that the Jihad (Holy War) movement is fast becoming general in all Mohammedan countries. He found that the Arabs are especially bitter against the British, because the English government has closed the Red sea and stopped the great annual pilgrimages from Egypt and India to Mecca and Medina. Still more important, he learned that the Mohammedans over the fact that the English have proclaimed the new ruler of Egypt appointed by them "Sultan of the two Holy Places," because all of the faithful insist that this title only belongs to the Caliph at Constantinople.

By their attempt to establish an Egyptian Caliphate the British have made one of their greatest mistakes," Dr. Neufeld said on his return to Constantinople. "The Arabs will never forgive them this interference with their religious affairs and the blockade of the Red sea."

"The English have stopped all imports, but there is no famine in Arabia, because the Turkish government is sending plenty of grain. British troops have repeatedly tried to effect a landing, but this is impossible, as the rifles and machine guns with which they armed the Arabs against the Turks are now used against themselves."

Flight With Turks. "In Basrah (Bassorah) the English have succeeded in winning the Sheik Ibn Mesud, but more than 10 fighting tribes under the leadership of Sheik Ibn Ishaq are fighting on the side of the Turks."

"The population of the whole western part of Yemen is in uprising against the British. In this part of Arabia only the Sheik Ibsal is in the pay of the English and he possesses little power and influence."

"The fortified harbor of Sheikh Said, opposite Hodeida, is in the possession of the Turks and Bedouins, who have attacked the island of Ferim and let no ship pass in daylight. In Berbera, on the African side of the Red sea, the British are besieged on land and the French railroad from Djibuti to Harar has been destroyed by the Abyssinians."

All Arabs are fervent admirers of Germany, he said, and every one of them knows the name of Field Marshal von Hindenburg. When the telegram brought the news of the fall of Warsaw to Medina there was a great celebration. The whole population assembled before the house of Dr. Neufeld to express its joys. An old priest who mildly protested and expressed doubts in regard to the righteousness of the Sultan's alliance with the German infidels was howled down by the mob which shouted:

"The enemies of the Germans are also our enemies! Therefore we must pray to Allah for our German friends, who will protect us and our religion."

SIX ARE KILLED IN FREAK STORM

All Kinds of Weather on Tap Around New York on Sunday.

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—Six persons were killed and scores injured by the wild storm that swept greater New York Sunday morning. The weather bureau man called it a "freak" storm. They say that a low barometric area from Virginia and a cold wave from the Lake Ontario region met over the New York bay.

Every degree and species of storm resulted. It blew a 50-mile gale. In turn it rained, sleeted, hailed and snowed. To make the program complete, a brief but furious electrical storm broke at 6:26 a. m. Tremendous thunderbolts and the vivid lightning of a tropical outbreak followed.

Ninety Mile An Hour Gale. The storm's great fury came in the last hour. The gale blew 90 miles an hour. Then it died and at noon the wind fell to 65 miles an hour and then to 10 miles in the afternoon. The precipitation of snow was less than three inches.

During the fury of the early morning gale windows were broken, ships were swept ashore, trolley cars were blown backward, signs were hurled miles away and motor cars were overturned. Riverside drive the greatest cliff-like apartment houses rocked as though mined.

The New Haven and New York Central lines were harassed by fallen poles and broken electrical connections. Trains were from one to three hours late in arriving in the Grand Central.

The rivers, the bay and all along Long Island Sound and Long Island itself were lashed into tremendous disorder. Shipping Tied Up. Shipping was completely tied up in the harbor. One barge was sunk, 15 others driven ashore and several Atlantic liners were forced to seek anchorage.

Patrick O'Neill, a barge skipper, was blown from his craft and drowned in Raritan bay. Many minor collisions between ferryboats occurred in the river.

In the upper bay a large number of freight steamers started to drift. The British steamer Welbeck Hall drifted to within a few feet of Governors Island before it was brought to anchor again.

The Anchor liner California, which should have left Saturday for Glasgow, was unable to anchor off the statue of Liberty and did not get away until late in the afternoon.

The liner Stockholm anchored off Fire Island rather than risk the trip in. Fear For Greek Steamer. The Holland-America freighter Zaandijk arrived off the Hook at 9 o'clock, but was unable to take a pilot aboard until late in the evening.

Some anxiety is felt for the safety of the Greek steamer Thessaloniki with 300 passengers aboard. The vessel sent out wireless distress calls three days ago.

The Stampalia which arrived here Saturday reported the Thessaloniki had succeeded in halting out the water. It had leaked into her engine room. It is feared today's storm may have made her condition worse.

LUMBERMAN EDITOR DIES Leonard Bronson Recognized as Expert Authority.

CHICAGO, Dec. 27.—Leonard Bronson, widely known trade newspaper man and an expert in the lumber industries, died Sunday after an illness of several weeks. For more than 50 years Mr. Bronson had been connected with the American Lumberman and the Northwestern Lumberman. His editorial writings on subjects pertaining to the lumber trade were taken as guides by those interested in that field. In 1910 he was selected as the manager of the National Lumber Manufacturers' association, but after two years returned to his editorial work.

DENIES MONITORS SUNK. LONDON, Dec. 27.—The official press bureau tonight issued for the admiral's denial of the sinking of two monitors in the Tigris as recently claimed in Turkish official reports.

EGYPTIAN DEFENSES READY. ROME, Dec. 27.—The Cairo correspondent of the Messagerio wires that the defenses of Egypt are now complete.

CHINA IS LIKELY TO SEE WAR SAYS LEADER



TONG KING CHONG. CHINA FILM SERVICE.

SAN FRANCISCO.—Tong King Chong, president of the Chinese Republic, is heading a movement to protest against the taking of the crown by Yuan Shi Kai and to arrange for the raising of funds to finance a revolution against him if he accepts the monarchy.

At a mass meeting here over which Tong King Chong presided, he said: "We are willing to permit Yuan Shi Kai to resign peacefully. If he does not there will be war. We are fighting for liberty and justice."

3,500,000 JEWS ARE HOMELESS

Vice Chairman of American Relief Society Says Conditions are Terrible.

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—A report made public by Dr. J. L. Magnes, vice chairman of the American Jewish Relief society, places the number of homeless Jews in Russia alone at 3,500,000. Conditions in that country, it is said, are steadily growing worse.

"They are being driven from place to place according to the whim or caprice of the administration," said Dr. Magnes. "Told that they may settle in one community today, they are forced to move on tomorrow."

"Families are scattered, women and children massacred on the altars of their synagogues and food refused to the starving—just because they are Jews. Russia's darkest pages of history are being outdone in the present atrocities."

"Hideous crimes perpetrated by public officials are hidden behind a close cloak of censorship. We hear only little of the terrible suffering which Russian Jews are enduring."

Calls It Crime of Age.

"The whole world was shocked at the atrocities committed by the Turks on Armenians. But that which is taking place in Russia—a country supposedly leading in civilization—is far more appalling. It might rank as the greatest crime of the age."

"Winter is adding hardship to the situation. Dante in his wildest flights of imagination could not picture the lot of our Russian brethren. Money and sympathy will help them, but will not entirely bring them out of the depth of despair."

"Some provinces are being thrown open to colonization by Jews. These are remotely situated from the places from which they are being driven."

Means Long Journey. "To reach them means a long, hard journey. In nearly every instance it means settling where Jews never before have been seen or tolerated. The Jew without friends or funds would be face to face with practically insurmountable obstacles."

"It is little wonder that thousands have taken their own lives rather than go on with the uneven battles. They simply relieve the officials of the task—a task which at this is not unpleasant to the Russian, if we might judge by the country's history."

Said \$5,000 Every 3 Months. Dr. Magnes said that \$5,000 is being sent every three months by the American Jewish relief community to Dr. Henry Morgenthau, American minister at Constantinople.

A meeting to raise funds for relief will be held in Baltimore on January 2. Chicago, Cleveland, Detroit and Pittsburgh will also hold meetings. Dr. Magnes will probably speak in each of these cities.

With regard to the war, Dr. Claxton declares: "The great war in Europe and the events connected therewith have called attention to the need of preparation for defense against possible hostile invasion and created a new interest in military

SEEK EQUALITY IN EDUCATION

U. S. Commissioner in Report Urges Same Privileges to Children.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—Equality of educational opportunity which will give the country boys and girls the same privileges enjoyed by the city school pupils is urged by the United States commissioner of education in his annual report. Although the report makes some mention of the effect of the war on education, particularly as it has called attention to the subject of preparedness, yet the general tone of the report shows in striking contrast the peaceful advance of education in this country as compared with the upheaval in Europe.

Educational preparedness is the dominant note of the commissioner's report. The upbuilding of systems of industrial education, whereby America's natural resources are to be conserved and developed through technical trade training, to the end that the nation may render highest service in the markets of the world; the establishment of stronger commercial courses in public high schools, designed to meet the new international trade situations involved in the opening of the Panama canal, the European war, and the closer relations between the countries of North and South America, the improvement of rural education, so that boys and girls in the country may have equal opportunities with boys and girls in the city, and that the significance of agriculture and country life in national well-being may be fully understood. These and other national problems wherein education plays a fundamental part are discussed in the report and progress during the current year outlined.

Democracy in Education. In general, the report finds there has been a real increase during the year in progress toward that equality of educational opportunity which is essential in a democracy. This is indicated, declares Commissioner Claxton, in his introduction to the report, in "greater interest in the health and care of young children and in a better type of home education; in the revival of interest in the kindergarten as an integral part of the public school system; in increased appropriations for longer terms and better salaries for teachers, particularly in rural communities where school terms have been short and salaries of teachers have been small; in the enactment of school attendance laws in some of the states which have not until now had such laws; in the adoption of the larger unit of administration of rural schools in several states; in the raising of standards of required preparation for teachers in some states and in the extension of the means of preparing teachers in normal schools, in departments of education in colleges, and especially in teacher-training classes in high schools; in the increased attendance in high schools; and in the differentiation of work and the adjustment of courses of study in schools of all grades to meet the needs of children of varying ability and the vocational life of the communities."

"Some progress has been made within the year in the reorganization of the 12 years of elementary and high schools on the basis of two equal periods of six years each. There is a better understanding of what college standards should be, and colleges are trying more and more to adjust themselves to these standards. This is made easier by the constant improvement of the public and private high schools and especially of the public high schools."

"The elevation of the standards of professional schools is due largely to the demand for higher standards in professional life. This has been accelerated by several surveys of professional schools made by some of the great educational foundations. The demand for intelligent and comprehensive surveys of the equipment, administration, and work of individual colleges and schools, and of state, county and city systems of schools continues. The purpose of these surveys is not to find fault, but to make an intelligent accounting of the schools and their results to the people who support them and are served by them. It is to discover some means of improving them and making them render fuller measure of service. Within the year several very valuable surveys of this kind have been made, and more are now under way. The reports of these surveys already constitute a unique and valuable body of educational literature."

In the foreign field, the report describes the experience of European nations in education for colonial service, the importance of which has been enhanced by the war. Great Britain, with her universities and higher technical schools interested in preparing men for service in British India; France, in the "Colonial school" at Paris, colonial institutes auxiliary to some of the universities, and the "School of Colonial Science," which lays special stress on its program upon colonial affairs; Holland, which makes special provision for study of administration in the East Indian colonies; and Germany, with the recently organized Hamburg Colonial institute and its elaborate program of studies covering colonial problems in every part of the world.

The War and Education. With regard to the war, Dr. Claxton declares: "The great war in Europe and the events connected therewith have called attention to the need of preparation for defense against possible hostile invasion and created a new interest in military

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EVERY DAY SOMEONE DIES FROM STRANGULATION HERNIA OR RUPTURE. Don't run the risk of a surgical operation, for every time a patient takes an anaesthetic for a surgical operation, he is taking his life in his own hands.

Again, if you are operated on you are required to be in the hospital for at least two or three weeks and, after leaving, it requires very near a year before you recover from the effects of same and after going through with this severe surgical operation and running the risk of your life, you are not guaranteed a cure.

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We will accept any case of Rupture, Piles, Varicocele or Hydrocele and permit you to deposit a draft in the First National Bank, or your bank, made payable to yourself and instructing them to place same to our account after you have been cured. We are the only reputable physicians in this line of work who will take such cases on a guarantee. By doing this, you are absolutely certain of a cure. You have nothing to lose and everything to gain, and if we were not perfectly sure of our work, we could not do business in this way very long, but instead, have been doing so for years. We have adopted this plan because so many have been swindled by quacks and fakers; not one of them will permit a patient to deposit his money until a cure has been effected.

Our Motto: "Advertise and let the people know what you can do, being sure to do all you advertise or promise."

DELAYS ARE DANGEROUS

DR. FLEENER CO.

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109 1/2 W. Washington Ave., Over Peck's Shoe Store.

education. The war has affected materially the schools in the countries directly engaged in it and in a smaller degree the schools of other European countries.

SCRAPS

Japanese steamship lines on the Pacific have gained much business out of Victoria, B. C., through the withdrawal of British ships because of the war.

A Swedish scientist has advanced the theory that bearded grain, such as wheat, draws electricity from the air and that the plant is aided in its growth thereby.

French experimenters are freezing fish into blocks of ice for transportation for long distances. It being asserted that they can be revived by slow thawing and sold alive.

More than 4,000,000 tons of ore a year are expected to be exported from iron mines in Algeria by the French capitalists who have obtained concessions after more than ten years of effort.

After a long investigation the United States bureau of standards has decided that the lightning rod, when properly installed, is a trustworthy means of protecting property. The change to electric power on Sweden's most northerly railroad in

the world has increased the train capacity 40 per cent and the speed 50 per cent over steam operation.

During the fighting on the Kashmir frontier, when the British troops defeated the rebellious Hunzas, the natives used bullets of pure garnets inclosed in lead. Many of the troops preserved these as curiosities.

Both the heaviest and lightest woods grow in the United States, the former being Florida ironwood, and the latter the so-called cork of southwestern Missouri.

Of the 1,500 hotels of New York city 25 represent more than \$5,000,000 each in land lease and construction. In one of these there are more than 1,800 telephones.

"Business before sentiment" might be described as Lord Kitchener's motto. One day, it is related, during the South African war, he received a telegram saying: "Rebels to report five men accidentally killed through the explosion of dynamite." And K. of K. promptly wired back: "Do you want any more dynamite?"

Of the many inventions for life-saving at sea, that of a New York inventor is among the most interesting ones. It is an odd-shaped suit that is worn by persons to enable them to float in the water. A life ring is placed around the neck portion to prevent the suit from capsizing. The head of the wearer is



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held above water and is protected by a hood.

The Scottish kilt, as an article of dress, dates back to prehistoric times, and was originally, as far as can be figured out, merely a plaid blanket, worn about the shoulders, with one end gathered about the loins in cold weather. The mountaineers of the Balkans wear a kilt, and students say that the soldiers of the Assyrian kings wore a costume very closely akin to the kilt of Scotland.

The battle of Agincourt was one of the most remarkable military feats in history. To 60,000 Frenchmen, Henry V. could oppose only 3,000 Englishmen, yet within a few hours his army killed 10,000 of the enemy and captured 14,000, including the duke of Orleans and Bourbons and 7,000 "barons, knights and gentlemen." The English losses were 1,600.—London Chronicle